

**Bible Study Week 2**

**REAL GRACE**

Real Grace is where our relationship with God is restored. In Real Grace we gather as God’s people.

Real Grace was modelled by Martin Luther who was gritty, open, honest and real.

We value the emphasis that Lutheran theology has placed on grace throughout the centuries. The core of our faith is what God has done for us: God’s grace that heals hurts, grace that accepts the lost, grace that welcomes and restores our lives.

**OPENING**

Do you like giving gifts? And are you good at giving gifts? Why, or why not?

What does the hymn “Amazing Grace” say to you?

In what ways is forgiveness powerful?

**STUDY**

We are created, redeemed and sustained by grace, it is a gift from God. What difference does it make in your life knowing that everything you have is a gift?

**Read Romans 5:1-11**

List the actions that God is doing for us in this passage.

If someone were to say, “I’m a pretty good person, God would let me in to heaven”, what could you say to them?

If someone were to say, “I’m such a terrible person, God could never allow me into heaven”, what could you say to them?

**Read Ephesians 2:1-22**

What does it look like when we are dead in sin?

How would you describe or illustrate grace?

What is the relationship between grace and works? (Verses 8-10)

How do we as a church community show grace to someone who is still learning the ways of Jesus?

**Read Luke 15:1-10**

What answer do these stories give to the Pharisees and the scribes?

How can we as a Church be like the shepherd and the woman in these parables?

Our churches are places where people can find healing and grace. How has the Church been a place of healing and belonging for you?

**APPLICATION**

Name the ways you have experienced God’s grace, and together as a group write/offer a prayer of thanks to God for all these things.

If Jesus died once and for all for our sins why do we keep talking and singing about it in worship every week? Why do we confess our sins in church again and again?

What kind of environment does grace create in our church community? How does it change/motivate/inform the way we interact with each other?

**FEEDBACK**

As you finish up your study please take a moment to send us a few notes at the District Office. We’d love to hear any stories or responses that you would like to share with us.

Send us an email at administration.sa-nt@lca.org.au or post your notes to 137 Archer Street North Adelaide SA 5006

We look forward to sharing in stories from all around South Australia and the Northern Territory.

**PERSONAL REFLECTION TIME**

**Read Psalm 23**

Which part of this psalm stands out to you? Why?

What would it look like for Jesus to lead you to rest today?

Why do you think Jesus has to lead us through the dark valley of death? Why couldn’t we just skip it?

When have church gatherings been a place of rest for you?